



Coalinga State Hospital

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Coalinga State Hospital Facts

Facility

- Coalinga State Hospital will be one of the largest mental health hospitals in the nation.
- This is the first state hospital built in California in a half-century; the last was Atascadero State Hospital, outside of San Luis Obispo, in 1954.
- Coalinga was selected from 29 proposed sites and approved for construction in October 2000.
- The facility occupies 320 acres and has 1.25 million gross square feet (gsf) of floor space. This includes 900,000 gsf for clinical services and programs, 158,000 gsf for support services, 75,000 gsf for administration, and 67,000 gsf for plant operations.
- The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Pleasant Valley State Prison, will provide perimeter security and all transport services.
- The facility was completed on time and on budget (at an approximate cost of \$388 million).
- The facility will have an approximate yearly operating budget of \$152 million.
- CSH will be fully licensed, and will seek accreditation through the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) in the future.

Patients

- CSH has a capacity for 1,500 patients (30 treatment units – 50 beds each).
- The hospital will have an all-male population.
- Patients will initially be sexually violent predators (who are currently housed at Atascadero State Prison) and seriously mentally ill inmates from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

- CSH is a maximum security psychiatric hospital, which means no patients will be allowed outside the hospital unless escorted for authorized reasons (e.g., transport to court). There will be no community work crews and no patients working on grounds outside the security perimeter.
- CSH is scheduled to receive the first patients in September 2005.

CSH and the Community

- CSH will provide economic revitalization to the local community.
- CSH will ultimately employ over 2,000 people and will be the area's largest employer.
- Approximately 700 people are currently employed by the facility.
- CSH is collaborating with West Hills Community College to initiate training programs for psychiatric technicians and hospital police and develop a Health Career Training Initiative to address health care worker shortages and unemployment rates.

Further information can be obtained from the following websites:

www.dmh.ca.gov/Statehospitals/Coalinga/default.asp

dmhnet.cahwnet.gov

www.spb.ca.gov